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REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT TO L-3023

20 APRIL 1967

PAGE 1

BTR-50P AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS  
THUAN LUONG, NORTH VIETNAM  
20 51 25N 105 38 21E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME ANY BTR-50P SERIES VEHICLES HAVE BEEN  
SEEN IN NORTH VIETNAM.

2. LOCATION:

THESE VEHICLES ARE LOCATED 1.1 NM SOUTH-SOUTHWEST OF THUAN LUONG  
AT UTM WJ665062.

3. COLLATERAL:

THE TRACKED AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER BTR-50P, INITIALLY  
SIGHTED IN 1955, IS THE ONLY TRACKED APC CURRENTLY EMPLOYED BY THE  
SOVIET BLOC. THE SOVIETS PRODUCE IT IN SEVERAL VERSIONS, THE BTR-50P  
OPEN TOP MODEL, THE BTR-50PK WITH OVERHEAD ARMOR COVER, THE BTR-50PU  
ARMORED COMMAND VEHICLE, AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK-PRODUCED OT-62 WITH OVER-  
HEAD ARMOR COVER. THE VEHICLES USE THE BASIC CHASSIS OF THE AMPHIBIOUS  
PT-76 LIGHT TANK.

THROUGH THE USE OF TWO HYDROJETS THIS SERIES OF VEHICLES ARE  
CAPABLE OF WATER SPEEDS OF FROM 5 TO 7 MPH. EACH HYDROJET TUBE IS  
FITTED WITH A TURBINE DRIVEN FROM THE VEHICLE ENGINE SO THAT WATER IS  
EXPULSED THROUGH THE HULL-PLATE OPENINGS IN THE REAR. STEERING IN THE  
WATER IS ACCOMPLISHED BY THE USE OF VENTS, ONE ON EACH SIDE OF THE HULL  
SIDEWALL, NEAR THE REAR.

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NGA review(s) completed.

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PAGE 2

THE BTR-50P HAS A LAND SPEED OF APPROXIMATELY 27 MPH AND A CRUISING RANGE OF ABOUT 160 MILES. IT CARRIES A CREW OF TWO, AND UP TO TWELVE FULLY EQUIPPED PASSENGERS, ALTHOUGH IT IS CHIEFLY USED BY ENGINEER UNITS AND AS A SPECIAL AMPHIBIOUS CARRIER. ITS NORMAL ARMAMENT IS A 7.62 MM MACHINEGUN, BUT IT IS FREQUENTLY UNARMED.

THE BTR-50PK AMPHIBIOUS APC IS A SLIGHTLY MODIFIED VERSION OF THE BASIC BTR-50P WITH OVERHEAD ARMOR COVER. ANOTHER CHANGE IS AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE VISION DEVICE MOUNTED ON THE RIGHT FRONT OF THE FRONTAL ARMOR, WHICH ALLOWS IT TO ROTATE. SOME VEHICLES HAVE AN INFRARED SEARCHLIGHT AS WELL AS INFRARED DRIVING LIGHTS.

4. MISSION READOUT:

[REDACTED] REVEALS THREE AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS OF THE BTR-50P FAMILY. TWO ARE LOCATED ON THE BANK OF AN UNNAMED STREAM AND THE THIRD IS 150 METERS WEST-NORTHWEST OF THE FIRST TWO. NUMEROUS TRACKED VEHICLE TRACKS ARE OBSERVED THROUGHOUT THE AREA.

[REDACTED]  
UTM COORDINATE TAKEN FROM AMS SERIES L701, SHEET 6150 IV

COLLATERAL SOURCES:

FOREIGN MATERIAL CATALOGUE (FOMCAT), TB 381-5-1, JANUARY 1965  
(CONFIDENTIAL).

IDENTIFICATION HANDBOOK, USAREUR PAM NO. 30-60-1 (UNCLASSIFIED).

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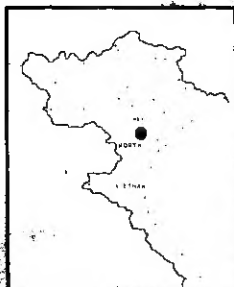
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# BTR-50P AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS

## THUAN LUONG, NORTH VIETNAM

20-51-25N 105-38-21E



BTR-50p

TRACKED VEHICLE TRAINING AREA



BTR-50pk

THUAN LUONG 1.1 NM

15X ENLARGEMENT

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